IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously presented) A method of processing a sequence of audio samples, each of said samples being stored within a respective packet, said method comprising:

retrieving a first packet from an input buffer, said first packet having an associated length;

determining pitch associated with audio information contained within said first packet;

determining whether a second packet of said audio samples has arrived at said input buffer, said second packet having an expected arrival time and an associated length;

in response to a determination that the second packet arrives after the expected arrival time, adjusting said length of said first packet using at least one pitch period associated with said pitch; and

adjusting the length of the second packet according to the adjusted length of the first packet and an arrival time of a third packet received after the second packet.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said adjusting comprises:

processing at least two adjacent pitch periods to produce a new pitch period.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said new pitch period replaces said at least two adjacent pitch periods.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said new pitch period is inserted between two of said at least two adjacent pitch periods.

460812-1

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
determining the length of the second packet.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
determining an estimated time of arrival (ETA) of the third packet.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein a target play
time comprises the ETA and a latency period of the third packet.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the length of
the second packet is reduced in response to a timely arrival of the third packet at
said input buffer.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the length of
the second packet is not reduced by a factor greater than two.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the length of
the second packet is reduced by deleting at least one pitch period of a plurality of
pitch periods contained within audio information of the second packet.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the length of
the second packet is expanded if the third packet arrives during the latency
period associated with the third packet.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the length of
the second packet is adjusted to compensate for adjustments of the length of the
first packet.

13. (Previously presented) An apparatus comprising:

Serial No. 09/829,314
Page 4 of 14

a first VoIP gateway for retrieving a first packet from an input buffer, said
first packet having an associated length;

said first VoIP gateway determining pitch associated with audio
information contained within said first packet;

said first VoIP gateway determining whether a second packet of said
audio information has arrived at said input buffer, said second packet having an
expected arrival time and an associated length

said first VoIP gateway adjusting said length of said first packet using at
least one pitch period associated with said pitch, responsive to a determination
that said second packet arrives after the expected arrival time;

said first VoIP gateway adjusting the length of the second packet
according to the adjusted length of the first packet and an arrival time of a third
packet received after the second packet.

14. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said
adjusting comprises:

processing at least two adjacent pitch periods to produce a new pitch
period.

15. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said new
pitch period replaces said at least two adjacent pitch periods.

16. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein said new
pitch period is inserted between two of said at least two adjacent pitch periods.

17. (Previously presented) A method of claim 13, wherein said first VoIP
gateway determines the length of the second packet.

18. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said first
VoIP gateway determines an estimated time of arrival (ETA) of the third packet.

460612-1

PAGE 4/14 * RCVD AT 6/20/2006 3:01:34 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/5 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:+17325309808 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-54

Serial No. 09/829,314
Page 5 of 14

19. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein a target play time comprises the ETA and a latency period of the third packet.

20. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the length of the second packet is reduced in response to a timely arrival of the third packet at said input buffer.

21. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the length of the second packet is not reduced by a factor greater than two.

22. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the length of the second packet is reduced by deleting at least one pitch period of a plurality of pitch periods contained within audio information of the second packet.

23. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the length of the second packet is expanded if the third packet arrives during the latency period of the third packet.

24. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the length of the second packet is expanded by copying pitch periods contained within audio information of said second packet.

25. (Previously presented) An apparatus for expanding and reducing audio information within packets, comprising:
a processor; and
a storage device coupled to said processor for controlling said processor, said processor comprising instructions operative to:
retrieve a first packet from an input buffer, said first packet having an associated length;

460612-1

Serial No. 09/829,314
Page 6 of 14

determine pitch associated with audio information contained within said first packet;

determine whether a second packet of said audio information has arrived at said input butter, said second packet having an expected arrival time and an associated length;

in response to a determination that the second packet arrives after the expected arrival time, adjust said length of said first packet using at least one pitch period associated with said pitch; and

adjust the length of the second packet according to the adjusted length of the first packet and an arrival time of a third packet received after the second packet.

26. (Previously presented) A computer readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of instructions including instructions which, when executed by a processor, ensures the processor to perform a method comprising:

retrieving a first packet from an input buffer, said first packet having an associated length;

determining pitch associated with audio information contained within said first packet;

determining whether a second packet of said audio information has arrived at said input buffer, said second packet having an expected arrival time and an associated length; and

in response to a determination that the second packet arrives after the expected arrival time, adjusting said length of said first packet using at least one pitch period associated with said pitch; and

adjusting the length of the second packet according to the adjusted length of the first packet and an arrival time of a third packet received after the second packet.

460612-1

PAGE 6/14 * RCVD AT 6/20/2006 3:01:34 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/5 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:+17325309808 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-54

Serial No. 09/829,314
Page 7 of 14

27. (Previously presented) A method of processing a sequence of audio samples, each of said samples being stored within a respective packet, said method comprising:

retrieving a first packet form an input buffer;

determining a pitch within said audio samples for said retrieved packet;

determining whether a second packet of said audio samples has arrived at said input buffer, said second packet having an expected arrival time;

in response to a determination that the second packet arrives after the expected arrival time, adjusting a play time for said retrieved packet using at least one pitch period associated with said pitch based on an actual arrival time of the second packet; and

adjusting a play time for said second packet based on the adjusted play time of the first packet and an actual arrival time of a third packet.

28 (Previously presented) The method of claim 27, further comprising: determining an estimated time of arrival (ETA) for the second packet.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein said play time is a target play time.

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein said target play time includes the ETA of the second packet and a latency period.

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 30 further comprising: expanding the play time of said retrieved packet when the second packet arrives during the latency period.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the play time of the retrieved packet is expanded by copying pitch periods contained within said retrieved packet.

460612-1

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 29 further comprising:

reducing the play time of the second packet when the third packet arrives before an ETA of the third packet.

34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the play time of the second packet is reduced by removing a pitch period within the second packet.

35. (Original) The method of claim 34, wherein the step of reducing is implemented to compensate for the step of expanding.

460612-1